AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE Serial Number: 09/811,158 Filing Date: March 16, 2001

MAINTAINING MEMBERSHIP IN HIGH AVAILABILITY COMPUTING SYSTEMS

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A high availability computing system comprising a plurality of servers connected by a first and a second network, wherein the servers include a group membership service operable to determine membership of a process executing on a server in the plurality of servers for an application distributed across two or more of the plurality of servers. said membership communicated between servers in the network utilizing a proposal message and a commit message, and further wherein the servers communicate with each other to detect server failure and transfer applications to other servers on detecting server failure.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining high availability in a server cluster having a plurality of servers, comprising:

instantiating a group communications service, a group membership service and a system resource manager on each node; and

communicating process membership in a group utilizing a proposal message and a commit message;

communicating between the group communications service, the group membership service and the system resource manager on each node to detect process failures and node failures;

transferring applications to other nodes on detecting node failure; and updating, by the group membership service, process membership in a distributed application upon detecting a process failure on a server.

3. (Original) An article comprising a computer readable medium having instructions thereon, wherein the instructions, when executed in a computer, create a system for executing the method of claim 2.